



Seaham
Urban District Council

ANNUAL
REPORT

FOR 1938

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.



SEAHAM :
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—
1939.



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Seaham Urban District Council.

Councillor T. McLAUCHLAN, J.P., Chairman.

Members of the Council:

Councillor	ARMSTRONG	Councillor	McLAUCHLAN
„	BARRATT	„	NEEDHAM
„	BLACKWELL	„	PIGG
„	CLAXTON	„	ROBINSON
„	CONN	„	SAMPLE
„	CROW	„	SCOLLEN
„	FERGUSON	„	SCOTT
„	GALLAGHER	„	SMITH
„	GUY	„	SNOWDEN
„	JENNINGS	„	TODD
„	KEELEY	„	WEBSTER
„	LAWSON	„	WEETMAN
„	LEE	„	WILSON
„	LOWERY	„	WINTER
„	McCHESNEY	„	WRIGHT
„	McCUTCHEON		

Officials:

Clerk of the Council—JNO. C. EDINGTON

Medical Officer—J. A. NEILAN, L.R.C.S.I., L.R.C.P.I., D.P.H.

Engineer and Surveyor—J. B. ABBEY, M. INST. M. & CY. E.,
A.R.S.I.

Electrical Engineer—J. S. FORSTER.

Chief Sanitary Inspector—B. TURNER, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector—J. D. COLLINS, C.R.S.I., A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Cert. Meat Inspector.

Deputy Clerk and Accountant—J. W. DRING.

Rating and Valuation Officer and Collector—J. W. RICHARDSON

Cemetery Superintendent—G. WATTS.

Housing Manager—C. W. MULVENNA.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the
Seaham Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1938.

The estimated population is now 29160 and the number of inhabited houses 6927. The Rateable value is £100,837, and a 1d. rate produces £374. The area (in acres) is 2467.

The chief industry of the district is the mining and export of coal. There is a small amount of agriculture, and a small amount of timber is imported.

The vital statistics show that the birth rate was 16.9, which is slightly lower than the County rate of 17.1. The death rate, 10.6, is lower than the County rate of 11.6. The infantile mortality rate is 66.6. Last year it was 82.9, and for the year was 61 for the administrative County. The zymotic death rate was .3 and the County .37.

Infectious Disease.

66 cases of diphtheria were notified and 65 of these were removed to hospital, 5 died. During the year under review 2,640 children were innoculated against this disease. It is to be regretted that more people have not availed themselves of this service. 60 cases of scarletina were notified during the year as compared with 97 cases in 1937. It was of a mild type and there were no deaths. During the year 56 cases of pneumonia were notified, 2 more than in 1937. 17 deaths from this disease occurred. There were 26 deaths in 1937. This is a very infectious and fatal disease, for which adequate hospital accommodation should be provided. At present this accommodation is inadequate. All the cases were treated at their own homes.

Hospitals.

In the early part of the year your Council decided to close the Isolation Hospital on Princess Road. Considerable difficulties were encountered in obtaining accommodation in other hospitals, and in some instances accommodation had to be found outside the County boundaries. The only hospital now in your area is the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Seaham Hall, which is administered by the County Council.

Housing.

93 new houses were built during the year by the Council, and 7 by private enterprise.

While considerable progress has been made in recent years in providing healthy housing conditions, the position still remains unsatisfactory. In an Urban district where an adequate supply of water is available in pipes in every street, it does not appear to me to be a very difficult matter to provide for a supply of hot and cold water in each dwelling, and any dwelling not so provided is not, in my opinion, suitable for human habitation.

During the year under review sinks and water were introduced into 51 houses. A large number of houses in your area which are of substantial construction are at present quite unfit for habitation owing to the prevailing custom of letting them in one and two room tenancies. If the owners of these houses do not remedy this defect by converting these into self-contained flats with modern amenities, or letting them as self-contained single houses after bringing them up to modern requirements, the only remedy will be their total demolition. While some owners are willing to bring their property up to modern requirements, they are faced with the difficulty of finding accommodation for their tenants while the work is being carried out. I would again suggest that a number of your Council houses be made available for this purpose.

Immediate steps should be taken to relieve overcrowding as there are still a large number of cases to be dealt with.

Sewers and Sewage Disposal.

On account of the housing activities in the district a new sewage scheme was initiated.

Camping Site.

The only camp in your district is that of the National Council of Social Service, which contains 320 beds, and is occupied in summer by school children and in winter by boys and girls from the Junior Instruction Centres.

Shops and Offices.

26 shops were visited and requests for necessary alterations were complied with.

Smoke Abatement.

During the year complaints were received of nuisances caused by smoke from Modern Fuels, Ltd., and from New Seaham Brickworks, and also from coal dust from Colliery sidings. All possible measures have been taken to remedy these defects except the closing down of the collieries and works, which would be the only effective real remedy.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in statute acres, 2,467.

Estimated Population, 29,160

Number of inhabited houses end of 1938, 6927

Extracts from the Vital Statistics of the year.

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered was 495, which is 37 more than in the previous year. Of these births 259 were male and 236 female, and 11 were illegitimate.

The birth rate was 16.9

The rate for the Administrative County of Durham for 1938 was 17.1, and that for England and Wales 15.1.

DEATHS.

311 deaths of persons belonging to this district occurred. Of these 168 were male and 143 female. The mortality rate was 10.6. The mortality rate for the Administrative County for 1938 was 11.6, and that for England and Wales, 11.6.

There were 2 deaths from accidents or diseases of parturition and pregnancy.

Zymotic Death Rate.—The following deaths occurred from zymotic diseases:—Diarrhœa, 3; Scarlet Fever, 0; Diphtheria, 5; Whooping Cough, 1—total of 9, which gives a rate of 0.3 as compared with 0.37 for the County of Durham. The highest recorded rate for this area was 4.4 in 1894.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The Infantile Mortality rate is calculated by the number of deaths under one year of age per 1,000 infants born alive.

38 deaths of infants under one year of age occurred. This gives a rate of 82·9. The rate for the Administrative County of Durham was 71, and was 214 in 1897, and 196 in 1911 in your own district.

The following table gives the principal Vital Statistics for Seaham as compared with those for the Administrative County of Durham :

Administrative County of Durham				Seaham	
		1937	1938	1937	1938
Birth Rate		17·1	17·1	17·2	16·9
Death Rate		12·4	11·6	10·3	10·6
Zymotic Death Rate		0·47	0·37	0·7	0·3
Smallpox		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever		0·02	0·02	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria		0·26	0·20	0·45	0·17
Enteric Fever		Nil	0·00	Nil	Nil
Measles		0·03	0·05	0·03	Nil
Whooping Cough		0·04	0·03	Nil	0·3
Diarrhoea under 2		0·11	0·07	0·22	0·1
„ over 2		0·05	0·03	Nil	Nil
Phthisis		0·59	0·53	0·41	0·75
Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy		1·05	0·85	1·4	0·92
Influenza		0·36	0·14	0·03	0·06
Infantile Mortality Rate ..		71	61	82·9	66·6

Causes of Death during the Year.

ALL CAUSES.					M	F
1	Typhoid Fever	..	..	..
2	Measles	..	..	..
3	Scarlet Fever	..	..	..
4	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	1	
5	Diphtheria	..	..	..	4	1
6	Influenza	..	..	..	2	
7	Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	..	1	
8	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	..	..	..	1	1
9	Respiratory Tuberculosis	..	..	..	11	11
10	Other Tuberculosis diseases	..	..	..	5	1
11	Syphilis	..	..	..		1
12	General Paralysis of Insane, etc.	..	..	..	1	
13	Cancer, malignant disease	..	..	..	13	25
14	Diabetes	..	..	..	0	1
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	..	..	..	13	10
16	Heart Disease	..	..	..	35	31
17	Aneurysm	..	..	..
18	Other Circulatory Diseases	..	..	..	11	18
19	Bronchitis	..	..	..	5	5
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	14	3
21	Other respiratory diseases	..	..	..		1
22	Peptic Ulcer	..	..	..	2	
23	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	..	..	..	2	1
24	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	..	..
25	Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	..	1	
26	Other Liver Diseases	..	..	..		1
27	Other Digestive Diseases	..	..	..	4	5
28	Acute and chronic Nephritis	..	..	..	3	1
29	Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..		1
30	Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	..	..	..		1
31	Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	..	..	..	12	10
32	Senility	..	..	..	3	5
33	Suicide	..	..	..
34	Other deaths from violence	..	..	..	11	3
35	Other defined diseases	..	..	..	13	5
36	Causes ill-defined	..	..	..		1
37	Diarrhœa, over 9 years	..	..	..
					168	143

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

The following diseases have been notified:—Diphtheria, 66; scarlet fever, 60; erysipelas, 13; pneumonia, 56; pulmonary tuberculosis, 44; non-pulmonary tuberculosis, 19; puerperal sepsis, 2; enteric fever, 0; cerebro spinal fever, 4—a total of 264 as compared with 288 in 1937.

Diphtheria.—66 cases were notified, and 65 admitted to hospital. 5 deaths occurred. Antitoxin is supplied free of charge to the practitioners in the area, and I cannot too strongly emphasise the importance of its early administration.

Scarlet Fever.—60 cases were notified. 45 were removed to Hospital. No deaths occurred.

Measles.—This disease was again epidemic in a mild type. No death occurred.

Tuberculosis.—44 cases of pulmonary and 19 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. All cases are sent to the Tuberculosis Dispensary in Sunderland. All deaths from this disease were notified.

Smallpox.—No case occurred.

Whooping Cough was prevalent in a mild form. One death occurred. Children with this disease should not be sent to school.

Enteric Fever.—No case occurred.

Notifiable Diseases during the year.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	66	65	5
Scarlet Fever	60	45	0
Erysipelas	13	4	0
Pneumonia	56	0	17
Puerperal Pyrexia Sepsis ..	2	2	1
Enteric Fever	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	4	4	2
	201	120	25

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ..								
1 ..	1		1				1	
5 ..	2	1	1	3				1
10 ..	1		2	2	1	1	1	
15 ..	4	1	3		2		1	
20 ..	4	6	1	1	3	3		
25 ..	2	8	1		1	1	1	
35 ..	7	3	1	1	3	3		
45 ..	2		1			2		
55 ..	1	1	1			1		
65 upwards					1		1	
TOTALS ..	24	20	12	7	11	11	5	1

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
1	1	0	1	0	0	0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

CASES NOTIFIED AT THE FOLLOWING AGES:—

Disease	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	..	2	3	5	8	24	13	2	2	1		2
Erysipelas..	..			1		1	1		2	3	3	2
Pneumonia	..	3	6	4	3	4	8	5	8	3	7	2
Diphtheria..	..	1	5	4	5	27	18	4	2			
Puerperal Sepsis	..								2			
Enteric Fever	..											
Cerebro Spinal Fever	..											
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..			2		2	1	5	20	10	4	
Non-Pulmonary "	..	1			4	4	3	2	3	1	1	

Professional Nursing in the Home.—

It affords me great pleasure to report that there are three Nursing Associations in the area. They are affiliated with the Durham County Nursing Association. Five nurses are employed who are doing much valuable work.

Midwives.—There are 7 midwives practising in the area. They are subsidised by Durham County Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—The only treatment centre in the district is the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, which was opened in January, 1921. It is situated on a convenient site in Londonderry Road, and consists of a waiting room, consulting room, weighing room, and a room for dental treatment, with a shed for perambulators. The centre has been well attended.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers.

Ambulance Facilities.—There is a motor ambulance for infectious cases, and two motor ambulances, each capable of taking two patients, for accidents and non-infectious cases.

Laboratory Work.—Arrangements have been made by the Durham County Council with the Newcastle College of Medicine for pathological and bacteriological examinations. Local practitioners have taken advantage of these arrangements in suspected cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and diphtheria.

Adoptive Acts.—The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (Parts II and III, adopted 1894), and the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (Parts II, III, IV, and VI, adopted 1909), are in force in the district.

Byelaws.—The following are in force in the district :—

New Streets and Buildings allowed by the Local Government Board in 1899 and 1913.

Slaughter-houses, allowed by the Local Government Board in 1899.

Prevention of Nuisances, allowed by the Local Government Board in 1899.

Common Lodging Houses, allowed by the Local Government Board in 1899.

Omnibuses, allowed by the Local Government Board in 1901.

The Regulations respecting Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops, 1903, Milk and Dairies (Amendment Act), 1922.

Byelaws relating to New Streets were revised and allowed by the Local Government Board during 1913, the main revision being the introduction of the "Avenue" type of short streets.

The Byelaws for New Streets and Buildings have been approved by the Ministry.

Byelaws to regulate the Terrace Green, Sea Banks, and Pleasure Grounds, 1914.

Byelaws with respect to houses intended or used for occupation by the working classes, 1936. P.H.A.

The Council is now responsible for administration of Shops Act, 1936, in their area.

Sanitary Administration, &c.

Tabular summary of the work of the Sanitary Department during the year, and action taken under the Public Health Acts or Byelaws, &c.

<i>Inspection of places where food is prepared.</i>	The bakehouses have been regularly inspected and found in good order.
<i>Slaughter-houses.</i>	There are 13 on the register, which have been inspected and found satisfactory. Number of inspections, 2521. 356 stones of meat and offals, and 160 stones of flour were condemned.
<i>Disinfection and Disinfection and the extent of their use.</i>	There is a Thresh disinfector at the Council Depot. 228 lots of bedding and 228 houses were disinfected after infectious disease, and the elementary schools when required.
<i>Other disinfections, including Slum Clearance</i>	62 slum clearance and 3 Council houses have been disinfected by the staff. All the houses, bedding, furniture, etc., are disinfected before a slum clearance tenant moves to a new house. This is done by powder, insecticides, and fumigation. Powder (Kolium Cr.); Insecticides (Kolium Cr.); Cromessol Sol., A and B and Flypic fumigation Blocks (Furness).

*Action under Dairies,
Cowsheds and Milk-
shops Order.*

The milkshops have been frequently inspected and found in a satisfactory condition. There are 9 dairies, which are kept clean and in good order. 9 licenses have been issued under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.

*Action under the Sale of
Food and Drugs Acts,
and the Milk & Cream
Regulations, if the
County Council is a
Local Authority under
those Acts.*

The County Council acts for the local authority and carries out all inspections.

Scavenging.

This work is done by the employees of the Council. The refuse is tipped into the sea at a point south of the town, and also New Seaham. 22,340 tons have been removed during the year.

Lodging Houses.

There are none in the district.

Theatres.

There are four in the area. They have been regularly inspected and found in a satisfactory condition.

*Sewers and Sewage Dis-
posal.*

Now satisfactory.

Factories and Workshops.

There are in the town 9 factories, 23 workshops and 7 work-places. They have been inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors and myself and found in good order. There are no out-workers and no underground bakehouses.

Water.

The water supplied by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company has been satisfactory in every respect. The supply is continuous.

51 houses taps and sinks provided.

702 informal written notices were served by the Inspector for the following insanitary conditions. The nuisances were all abated.

Dwelling-houses	{	Foul conditions..	..	37
and	{	Structural defects	..	90
Schools	{	Overcrowding ..	..	—
Lodging Houses ..		..	..	—
Dairies and Milkshops		..	..	—
Cowsheds ..		..	..	—
Bakehouses ..		..	..	1
Slaughter-houses		..	..	—
Ashpits and Privies		..	..	—
Deposits of Refuse and Manure		..	..	—
Water Closets ..		..	..	83
Defective Yard Paving		..	..	26
House	{	Defective Traps	..	—
Drainage	{	No Disconnection from Sewers	..	2
	{	Other faults ..	..	27
Water Supply ..		..	..	3
Pigsties ..		..	..	—
Animals Improperly Kept		..	..	—
Offensive Trades ..		..	..	—
Smoke Nuisances		..	..	5
Other Nuisances (Ash Bins)		..	..	428
Total..			..	702

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer.

Surveyor and Engineer Chief Sanitary Inspector
Sanitary Inspector.

Health Visitors :

The Health Visitors are employed by the County Council, and are under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

				Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	...	...	...	629	300	8	3162	1121
Number inspected	...	...	...	356	209	8	2156	1062
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>								
Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	16	12	—	2	12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	...	...	...	4 49	5·69	—	·09	1·12
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>								
Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	4	6	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	10	24	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis...	...	...	...	3·93	14·3	·008	—	—

SLUM CLEARANCE SCHEMES.

Statement regarding (A) Clearance Orders and (B) Compulsory Purchase Orders, considered at Public Enquiries held by Inspectors of the Ministry of Health at Seaham, Jan. 23—25, Nov. 14 and 15, 1934, Dec. 3, 1935, June 24 and Dec. 31, 1936, Nov. 23, 1937, and Feb. 9, 1938.

No.	Situation	No. of Displacements		No. of Persons for whom new houses will provide accommodation	No. of Houses required	Decision of Ministry of Health			
		Persons	Houses			No. of Houses confirmed for demolition	No. of Houses coloured Grey	No. of Houses etc., coloured Green	No. of Persons excluded
(A) Clearance Orders.									
1	Low Ropery ...	97	16	106	23	16			
2	Pilot Terrace ...	68	7	79	19	7			
3	Pilot Cottages ...	14	4	16	4	4			
7	John Street, South side ...	193	30	209	43	30			
8	North Railway St. (Portion A)	60	13	59	15	13			
11	John Street (Portion) ...	71	8	64	12	8			
14	Back North Railway Street ...	21	2	21	4	2			
15	Back North Terr. (Portion A)	46	6	54	12	6			
16	Do. (Portion B)	55	8	62	13	7	1		7
17	Do. (Portion C)	43	8	63	17	3	5		29
18	Rutherford's Buildings ...	28	6	33	7	4	2		4
19	Back North Church Street ...	48	6	46	10	6			
20	Green Street (Portion A)	29	5	32	7	5			
21	Do. (Portion B)	5	2	8	3	2			
22	Do. (Portion C)	34	7	42	11	7			
23	Do. (Portion D)	29	3	34	7	3			
24	Adolphus Street...	45	6	50	11	6			
25	South Terrace ...	13	2	16	4	2			
26	Foundry Houses ...	23	6	24	6	6			
27	1, Pilot Terrace...	13	2	14	3	2			
28	Dawdon Hill Farm ...	14	3	16	3	3			
29	Dene Cottages ...	17	5	18	4	5			
31	Church Street (Portion A)	10	2	10	2	2			
33	Green Street (Portion E)	20	2	24	6	2			
34	Adelaide Row (Portion A)	14	4	17	4	4			
35	Do. (Portion B)	24	5	24	5	5			
37	Seaham William Street	317	87	320	87	87			
38	Mill Cottages, South ...	15	5	18	5	4			
39	Do. North ...	33	9	38	9	9			
42	Brickworks Cottages ...	18	5	19	4				
43	Bankhead Cottages ...	9	2	10	2				

4	South Railway St., East End	101	19	119	24	13	4		
5	Do. West End	295	43	314	72	41	2		
6	Henry Street ...	186	38	198	47	37	1		
9	North Railway St. (Portion B)	59	7	66	12	7			
10	Do. (Portion C)	51	9	54	12	6	3		
12	William Street ...	424	59	497	109	55	4		
13	Henry Street (Portion)	37	11	48	11	8	3		
30	Swinebank Cottages ...	481	83	509	89	83			
36	Seaham High Colliery...	2341	503	2342	517	502	1		
40	Do. Low do. ...	908	185	908	182				
41	Seaham Church Street...	65	26	66	23				
		4948	981	5121	1098	754	18		—
	Summary—Clearance Orders	1426	276	1546	362	260	8		40
	Compulsory Purchase Orders	4948	981	5121	1098	754	18		—
	Grand Totals ...	6374	1257	6667	1460	1014	26		40

GENERAL SANITATION, HOUSING, &c.

Number of water closets in the district	...	...	7856
„ ash closets	...	...	Nil
„ ashpit privies	...	..	16

100 houses have been erected during the year, and of these 93 were part of the municipal scheme, which makes a total of 2,021 houses erected by the Local Authority.

The table overleaf shows at a glance the present position of your Slum Clearance Schemes, and that on page 19 of your Municipal Housing Schemes.

STATEMENT SHOWING WEEKLY INCLUSIVE RENTS, for HALF-YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1939

GENERAL RATE AT 9/8 IN THE £.

Act of Parliament	Number of Houses Occpd. 30/1/39	Total	Type	No. of Rooms	Rateable Value	Net weekly rent	General Rate	Water Rate	Electri- city Charge	Total inclusive rent
Housing Act, 1919	33		House	5	£12	8/0	3/10	9d.		12/7
(Seaham Parish)	54		House	5	£13	8/6	4/1	9d.		13/4
(do.)	36		House	4	£10	6/9	3/2	8d.		10/7
Housing Act, 1923	4	127	House	5	£14	7/6	5/2	10d.		13/6
	112		House	4	£12	8/0	3/10	9d.		12/7
	18		Cottage	4	£12	7/3	3/10	9d.		11/10
	134		Cottage	3	£11	6/6	3/6	8d.		10/8
(Seaham Parish)	19	283	House	4	£10	5/7	3/2	8d.		9/5
Housing Act, 1924	89		Cottage	4	£12	7/3	3/10	9d.		11/10
	444		Cottage	3	£11	6/6	3/6	8d.		10/8
	130		House	4	£12	7/6	3/10	9d.		12/1
(Seaham Parish)	64		House	4	£10	5/7	3/2	8d.		9/5
(do.)	24	751	House	3	£9	5/3	2/11	7d.		8/9
Housing Act, 1930	150	150	Cottage	2	£5	Inclusive	weekly	rent		6/0
(Aged Persons)										
Housing Act, 1930 (Re-Hsg)	70		Cottage	2	£7	3/1	2/2	6d.	3d.	6/0
(Deneside)	206		House	3	£10	3/8	3/2	8d.	3d.	7/9
(do.)	112		House	4	£11	3/10	3/6	8d.	3d.	8/3
(do.)	66		House	5	£12	4/1	3/10	9d.	3d.	8/11
(Town and Dawdon)	60		House	3	£10	4/9	3/2	8d.	3d.	8/10
	56		House	4	£11	5/3	3/5	9d.	3d.	9/8
	46	616	House	5	£12	5/7	3/10	9d.	3d.	10/5
Housing Act, 1935	12		Cottage	2	£7	3/1	2/2	6d.	3d.	6/0
(Overcrowding)	30		House	3	£10	5/3	3/2	8d.	3d.	9/4
	30		House	4	£11	6/3	3/6	8d.	3d.	10/8
	22	94	House	5	£12	7/3	3/10	9d.	3d.	12/1
		2021								

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

1—(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2243
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...	4626
2—(a) Number of dwelling-houses, included under sub-heading	
(1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	2
(2) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	4
3—Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
4—Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	599

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	153
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3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
2—Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By local authority in default of owners...	0

B—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

1—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	153
2—Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—		
(a) By owners	... ..	153
(b) By local authority in default of owners	..	Nil

C—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—

1—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	... ..	822
2—Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	... ..	63

D—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1—Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	... ..	1
2—Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ..	0

Port Sanitary Authority.

I beg to report that the number of ships inspected by the Medical Officer was 10, and that 37 were inspected by the Sanitary Inspector. The conditions were found satisfactory.

No case of infectious disease occurred on board a ship.

The quarantine station is situated in the south-east corner of the south dock, and it has been arranged that any ship arriving with illness on board will be at once reported to the Medical Officer, and no person permitted to leave the ship until they have been inspected.

Arrangements have been made for the cleansing of verminous persons and their belongings. Infected articles would be disinfected at the Isolation Hospital. The erection of a steam disinfecting apparatus is considered too expensive at the present time.

Arrangements have been made for the destruction of rats by the Durham County Council. There are few rats at the dock, or on board the ships trading with the port, as there is no grain imported.

The exports consisted of coal and coke. The imports consisted of cargoes of timber.

The principal ports with which trade is carried on are London, Dover, Ipswich, Aberdeen, Copenhagen, Christiania, Rouen, Stockholm, Antwerp, and Hamburg.

The following regulations have been made between your Council and the Board of Customs and Excise, regarding the Mooring Station in the South Dock.

The Board formally agree to the establishment, under Article 10 of the Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933, of the under-mentioned Mooring Station for Ships arriving at Seaham Harbour, viz.:—

“The South East corner of South Dock.”

This Agreement is subject to the following understandings

- (a) That the mooring place is for all ships which may be unhealthy under the regulations, and
- (b) That a standing exemption from detention under Article 14 has been granted by the Medical Officer in respect of
 - (i) Ships with minor infectious diseases (other than Scarlet Fever or Typhoid), and
 - (ii) Ships otherwise clean arriving from Ports in areas listed under Article II.

Amount of Shipping entering the Port Sanitary District during the year 1938.

	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number reported to be defective	Number of Orders issued
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector		
Foreign { Steamers and Motor Vessels	218	190,781	0	0	Nil	Nil
Sailing ..						
Fishing ..						
Total Foreign Going ..	218	190,781	0	0		
Coastwise { Steamers and Motor Vessels	1156	710,819	10	37	Nil	Nil
Sailing ..						
Fishing ..	12	581				
Total Coastwise ..	1168	711,400	10	37		
Total Foreign Going and Coastwise ..	1,386	902,181	10	37		
Total Shipped from Docks—2,230,000 Tons.						

TABLE A.

1—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	9	Nil	Nil
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	23	Nil	Nil
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises)	7	Nil	Nil
Total ..	39	Nil	Nil

2—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecu- tions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H. M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:</i>		Nil		
Want of cleanliness				
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances.. .. .				
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-house s. 101				
Other offences				
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule of the Ministry of Health, Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921).				
Total ..				

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Health Department,
Dalton House,
Seaham,

J. A. NEILAN.

June, 1939.

